

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-32 without prejudice, and amend the claims as follows:

1-32. (Canceled)

33. (Original) A graphical user interface residing in memory, comprising:
- a) a query conditions screen for specifying logical fields and operators to define abstract queries, the abstract queries being defined by a data abstraction model comprising metadata mapping the logical fields to physical data;
 - b) an aggregation screen area, comprising:
 - a result field window displaying a plurality of result fields of a given abstract query, wherein the plurality of result fields are logical fields defined by the data abstraction model; and
 - a plurality of graphical selection elements for each of a plurality of selectable aggregation operations applicable to the result fields; and
 - c) a grouping screen area displaying the plurality of result fields and wherein each selection of one of the plurality of result fields defines a result group for the given query;
 - d) a first selection element for specifying whether the given query comprising user selections made from aggregation screen area and the grouping screen area will be executed as an aggregation query or a non-aggregation query, wherein the aggregation query returns summary information comprising each result group and values calculated by applying selected ones of the plurality of selectable aggregation operations to selected ones of the plurality of result fields; and
 - e) a second selection element for initiating execution of the given query as the aggregation query or the non-aggregation query according to the selection made through the first selection element.

34. (Original) The graphical user interface of claim 33, wherein the first selection element is a checkbox.

35. (Original) The graphical user interface of claim 33, wherein the aggregation screen area comprises a selection window for displaying a query element comprising a selected result field and a selected aggregation operation applied to the selected result field by selection of a graphical selection element corresponding to the selected aggregation operation.

Please add the following new claims:

36. (New) A method of building queries, comprising:

displaying logical fields and operators to define abstract queries in a query conditions screen, the abstract queries being defined by a data abstraction model comprising metadata mapping the logical fields to physical data;

in an aggregation screen area:

displaying a plurality of result fields of a given abstract query, wherein the plurality of result fields are logical fields defined by the data abstraction model;

and

displaying a plurality of selectable aggregation operations applicable to the result fields; and

in a grouping screen area, displaying the plurality of result fields and wherein each selection of one of the plurality of result fields from the grouping screen area defines a result group for the given query;

displaying a first selection element for specifying whether the given query comprising user selections made from the aggregation screen area and the grouping screen area will be executed as an aggregation query or a non-aggregation query, wherein the aggregation query returns summary information comprising each result group and values calculated by applying selected ones of the plurality of selectable

aggregation operations from the aggregation screen area to selected ones of the plurality of result fields from the aggregation screen area; and

displaying a second selection element for initiating execution of the given query as the aggregation query or the non-aggregation query according to the selection made through the first selection element.

37. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the first selection element is a checkbox.

38. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the aggregation screen area comprises a selection window for displaying a query element comprising a selected result field and a selected aggregation operation applied to the selected result field by selection of a graphical selection element corresponding to the selected aggregation operation.